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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

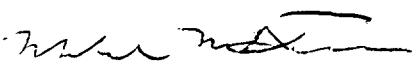
REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF

**Statement
By the
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5**

**REGARDING RESIDENTIAL SOIL SAMPLING IN THE REGION KNOWN AS
SAUGET AREA 1, LOCATED IN SAUGET AND CAHOKIA, ILLINOIS**

In January 1999, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and Solutia Inc. agreed, through an Administrative Order on Consent, that the company would investigate whether the historical disposal of hazardous substances in and around Dead Creek (a drainage channel running through Cahokia and Sauget, Illinois) posed environmental or health risks to the community. USEPA approved Solutia's proposed plan for sampling the soils in this area to best determine the impact, if any, on residential properties surrounding the creek in a study area bordered by Falling Springs Road, Route 3, Judith Lane and Route 157.

In addition to extensive soil sampling in Dead Creek itself, sampling took place on residential properties most likely to have been impacted by the creek. Dead Creek was found to contain contamination at levels which require remedial response. This response, in the form of a creek sediment dredging and disposal project, is currently underway. The results of this residential soil sampling, however, showed no risk to human health or the environment from within the study area, as only low levels of some contaminants were found. At this time, USEPA believes, based on these samples and results, that there is no need to conduct any remedial action on residential soils in the study area bordering Dead Creek.


Michael McAteer
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. EPA

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY

AUG 28 2001

OFFICE OF REGIONAL
COUNSEL